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REMARKS

Claims 1-11 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Doughty in view of Volftsun. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that Doughty discloses the invention, except for the exchange between the first and second application programs occurs by means of a connection program, such that one of the application programs cooperates with the other application program to provide various protocols of one or both of the application programs. The Examiner turns to Volftsun as disclosing a protocol conversion engine 300 akin to the claimed "connection program" which one enables a flexible exchange between various protocols of application programs. Referring to column 7, lines 32-34 (Fig. 3), the protocol conversion engine 300 is used only as an inter-working tool for signaling messages (an application program for performing/transferring the signaling data is not disclosed). Even if, at column 7, line 53 Volftsun discloses "call related data" or "software events," the dumper 336 collects these data or prepares these events for processing by an operating system. Hence, an applications program for call processing is not disclosed, nor is it disclosed that the protocol engine 300 enables an adaptive connection for various protocols between an applications program for the signaling data and the call processing.

In Volftsun, referring to column 8 (Fig. 4), the protocol conversion engine 300 comprises a plurality of protocol adapters 404, 408 for supporting interconnection of external systems that may be involved (or not) in real time call control. According to Volftsun, these adapters 404, 408 are also a mechanism by which a call will be supported and are responsible for maintaining the environment in which the call instance 402 executes. An application program for call processing and signaling data, and a means to easily connect their respective various protocols via a single protection program, is not disclosed. If Volftsun did connect some application programs for call processing and signaling data, it would make use of many adapters. At line 45, column 8, Volftsun discloses that the protocol adapters in conjunction with call control state machines 410, 412 are converting signaling messages to non-protocol-specific internal primitives. Again, this does not disclose the claimed invention which uses a single connection program. That is, the claimed

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invention does not need all these adapters as well as the mentioned call control state machines of Volftsun. Moreover, the claimed invention, and in particular, the single connection program, avoid a further conversion into a "middle state" like the non-protocol-specific internal primitives related to Volftsun.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122002000.

Dated: January 22, 2007   Respectfully submitted,

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